



# YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

ROLE DESCRIPTION AND PERSON  
SPECIFICATION

YOUTH LEADS UK

# ROLE DETAILS

## Role Title:

Youth Leads UK Youth Advisory Board Member

## Time Commitment:

3-5 hours per month. This is a voluntary role; however, we expect members to attend at least three sessions per year. Our meetings are held in Greater Manchester (with the option of joining online where necessary), and are usually on weekends.

## Responsible to:

Projects & Youth Engagement Coordinators, Board of Trustees

# ABOUT YOUTH LEADS UK

Youth Leads UK is an award-winning youth-led charity supporting young people aged 12-25 to enrich their skills, reach their potential and influence change. We do this through peer-led programmes of volunteering, social action, learning experiences and amplifying young people's voices with key decision-makers.

Working with thousands of young people across Greater Manchester over a decade, Youth Leads UK are experts in enabling young people from underrepresented groups to have an influence over issues that affect their lives, from education and well-being to employment and skills.

## VISION

A country where youth leads – young people feel listened to, part of their communities, and ready to make change through skills development opportunities.

## MISSION

Youth Leads supports young people aged 12-25 to enrich their skills, reach their potential, and influence change. We do this through peer-led programmes of volunteering, social action projects, and learning experiences, and by amplifying the voice of young people with key decision makers.

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

<b>Skills Enrichment</b>	Immersing young people into new and challenging environments, to develop and enrich their skills through mentorship, training and industry insights.
<b>Self-Empowering Potential</b>	Connecting young people to their community through increased responsibility, opportunities and recognition through youth-led projects, co-design and pathways to progress into senior roles.
<b>Influencing Change</b>	Influencing decision making across society through elevated youth voice opportunities. We work tirelessly to improve the perceptions of young people, challenge decision makers, and champion meaningful representation.
<b>Organisational Development</b>	Establishing a sustainable, skilled and effective organisation.

# VALUES

<b>Fun</b>	We provide energised activities, opportunities for social inclusion & support networks through new friendships.
<b>Bold</b>	We're not afraid to take risks.
<b>Community</b>	Working in partnership to inspire civic pride and support young people to develop as world class citizens.
<b>Empowering</b>	Facilitating opportunities – with beneficiaries at the heart of decision making – to create lasting change through co-designed projects.
<b>Aspirational</b>	Helping and supporting young people to be the best they can be.

# WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING?

Working alongside the Board of Trustees, the Youth Advisory Board (YAB) will be made up of 10-15 diverse young people who will hold the charity to account in line with the current strategy. This is to make sure we stay youth-informed, accessible and inclusive at every level.

As a member of the YAB, you will be responsible for:

- Providing constructive feedback to the Board of Trustees on their strategies
- Sharing experiences and insight into issues faced by young people
- Presenting ideas & feedback to the YAB and the Board of Trustees on proposed programmes, partnerships and other services
- Maintaining meaningful relationships with external stakeholders and our Alumni
- Advocating Youth Leads UK values

Don't worry - we know this is broad! We want the YAB to shape their responsibilities throughout their time with us.

You will lead & take part in various activities, supported by our Youth Engagement Team, working together to move the charity forward. You will also have the opportunity to share the YAB's thoughts with decision-makers within and outside the charity sector. We will also support you in expressing yourself in ways that work best for you, such as through discussion, presentation or creative activities.

This might include tasks such as:

- Writing opening statements for our Annual Reports.
- Attending Trustee's meetings.
- Giving speeches or presentations at events.
- Attending external meetings and/or events as a representative of Youth Leads UK.

# PERSON SPECIFICATION

We work on the principle of 'potential not polished'. If you don't have all the skills listed or don't feel confident with something, we still encourage you to apply - most things can be taught, and you will have the opportunity to practise new skills within the safety of the YAB.

You must:

- Be aged between 14 & 25 years old
- Be living in England

You should:

- Be comfortable working within a group, sharing experiences & ideas
- Have a passion for youth voice, leadership & decision-making
- Be empathetic, considerate and open to giving & receiving constructive feedback
- Be able to use your unique experience and circumstances to support the charity to be as inclusive and accessible as possible.

# WHAT WILL YOU GET OUT OF IT?

All of the young people we work with have access to support from our staff and other new opportunities to take up while working in your role. This includes things like:

- Support building your profile as a youth champion.
- Opportunities for speaking publicly at our events.
- Writing for Xplode Magazine, which is completely youth-led.
- Experiences for working with us or with our huge network of business and charity partners.
- Employability support, such as CV writing or interview skills practice.
- Awarded certified recognition from us
- A reference from us for future jobs or voluntary positions.

# FAQs

## **What is the Youth Advisory Board?**

The Youth Advisory Board is a group of young people who come together to provide insights, suggestions, and recommendations on our Youth Leads UK's programs and initiatives, ensuring that the perspectives of youth are heard and acted upon.

## **Who can apply to be on the Youth Advisory Board?**

We welcome applications from young people aged 14-25 who live, work or study in Greater Manchester.

## **How long is the term for a Youth Advisory Board member?**

Board members serve for a term of one year, with the possibility of renewal.

## **How do I apply for the Youth Advisory Board?**

You can apply by filling out the online application form on our website. The form includes questions about your experience, interests, and why you want to be part of the Board.

## **What happens after I submit my application?**

After the application deadline, we will review all submissions and shortlist candidates for interviews.

## **Do I get paid for being on the Board?**

This is a voluntary role. However, we do offer your travel and food expenses every time you do anything for Youth Leads UK.

## **What skills will I gain from this experience?**

Board members often gain skills in leadership, teamwork, public speaking, and project management, among others.

You will also have a dedicated mentor to support and guide you.

YAB members can expect to gain invaluable experience and insight into the youth charity sector and will develop skills including presentations, decision-making, confidence and communication skills. There will also be additional training opportunities and social events for YAB members to participate in.

## **What if I have additional needs?**

If you require any additional needs support, Youth Leads UK will work together with you to ensure that the Board is fully accessible and that you feel supported when undertaking YAB activities.

# HOW TO APPLY

To apply, you need to supply some basic information about you and answer the following three questions:

- What do you want us to know about you?
- What do you think are the three biggest challenges facing young people today?
- What made you want to apply to be a member of the Youth Advisory Board?

You can submit your answers with text, video or audio. To make sure we treat every applicant fairly, we will stop watching, reading or listening to answers at the specified timestamps listed in the form, so make sure you keep to time.

You can either upload files to the application form [here](#) or email them to [info@youthleads.uk](mailto:info@youthleads.uk).

## IMPORTANT DATES

Recruitment starts - September 2023

Shortlisting - Ongoing

Group Interviews - October 2023

Induction - October-November 2023\*

First Board Meeting - November-December 2023\*

\*These Dates may be subject to change.